



### The Sunday of the Paralytic

Close to the Sheep's gate in Jerusalem, there was a pool, which was called the Sheep's Pool. It had round about it five porches, that is, five sets of pillars supporting a domed roof. Under this roof there lay very many sick people with various maladies, awaiting the moving of the water, because an angel of the Lord came down to the pool at a certain season and troubled the water. The first to step in after the troubling of the waters was healed immediately of whatever malady he had.

It was there that the paralytic of today's Gospel was lying, tormented by his infirmity of thirty-eight years. When Christ beheld him, He asked him, "Wilt thou be made whole?" And he answered with a quiet and meek voice, "Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool." The Lord said to him, "Rise, take up thy bed and walk." And straightway the man was made whole and took up his bed. Walking in the presence of all, he departed rejoicing to his own house. According to the expounders of the Gospels, the Lord Jesus healed this paralytic during the days of the Passover, when he had gone to Jerusalem for the Feast, and dwelt there teaching and working miracles. According to Saint John the Evangelist, this miracle took place on the Sabbath.

*Dismissal Hymn. Third Tone*

**L**ET the Heavens rejoice; let earthly things be glad; for the Lord hath wrought might with his arm, He hath trampled upon death by death. The first-born of the dead hath He become. From the belly of Hades hath he delivered us, and hath granted great mercy to the world.

*Kontakion. Third Tone*

*On this day the Virgin*

**A**S of old thou didst raise up \* the paralytic, O Lord God, \* by Thy Godlike care and might, \* raise up my soul which is palsied \* by diverse sins and transgressions \* and by unseemly \* deeds and acts, that, being saved, I may also cry out: \* O Compassionate Redeemer, \* O Christ God, glory \* to Thy dominion and might.

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**OIKOS**

**O** THOU Who holdest the ends of the earth in the palm of Thy hand, O Jesus our God, Who art cobeginningless with the Father, and Who, together with the Holy Spirit, dost rule over all things: Thou didst appear in the flesh, healing infirmities, driving away passions, and giving sight to the blind. And, by a divine word, Thou didst raise up the paralytic, commanding him to walk straightway and to take up upon his shoulders his bed, which had carried him. Wherefore, together with him we all praise Thee and cry: O Compassionate Christ, glory to Thy dominion and might.

*The Synaxarion of the Menaion, then the following:*

On this day, the fourth Sunday of Pascha, we make commemoration of the paralytic and, as is meet, we celebrate the miracle wrought for him.

*Verses*

The Word of Christ was strength for the paralytic,  
And thus this word alone was his healing.

By Thy boundless mercy, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.